Grade 4 Performance Level Descriptors

Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System - Alternate English Language Arts (NSCAS-AAELA)

Developing	Established	Distinguished
Developing learners do not yet demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level, as specified in the assessed Nebraska College- and Career-Ready Standards. These results provide evidence that the student may need additional support for academic success at the next grade level.	Established learners demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level, as specified in the assessed Nebraska College- and Career-Ready Standards. These results provide evidence that the student will likely be ready for academic success at the next grade level.	Distinguished learners demonstrate advanced proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level, as specified in the assessed Nebraska Collegeand Career-Ready Standards. These results provide evidence that the student will likely be ready for academic success at the next grade level.
The student at this level	The student at this level	The student at this level
 Determines the meaning of simple or familiar words using word structure (e.g., regular singular and plural words paired with illustrations). 	 Determines the meaning of words using word structure (e.g., singular and plural words paired with illustrations; possessives, possessive pronouns). 	 Determines the meaning of uncommon words using word structure (e.g., singular and plural words paired with illustrations; possessives, possessive pronouns).
 Determines the meaning of simple or familiar words by using context clues (e.g., words paired with pictures, phrase clues) and text features (e.g., illustrations). 	 Determines the meaning of words by using context clues (e.g., words paired with pictures, phrase and sentence clues) and text features (e.g., titles, illustrations, maps, charts). 	 Determines the meaning of uncommon words by using context clues (e.g., words, phrase and sentence clues) and text features (e.g., titles, illustrations, maps, charts).
 Identifies simple semantic relationships (i.e., synonyms and antonyms). 	 Identifies semantic relationships (i.e., synonyms and antonyms). 	 Identifies semantic relationships using uncommon words (i.e., synonyms and antonyms).

- Determines if an author's purpose is to entertain or inform when it is stated.
- Identifies basic elements of literary text (i.e., character[s]).
- Recognizes simple or familiar literary devices used in literary text.
- Identifies an idea of a simple literary text.
- Identifies an idea of a simple informational text.
- Locates information using basic text features (e.g., illustrations, lists).
- Recognizes simple literary and informational texts.

- Determines if an author's purpose is to entertain or inform.
- Identifies and describes elements of literary text (i.e., character[s] and setting).
- Recognizes how literary devices are used purposefully in literary text (e.g., onomatopoeia, personification).
- Summarizes a literary text using key details.
- Identifies the main idea of an informational text.
- Locates information using text features (e.g., illustrations, lists, tables of contents, maps, charts).
- Identifies a variety of literary and informational texts (e.g., stories, poems, dramas, schedules, calendars, lunch menus, signs, reference texts).

- Determines if an author's purpose is to entertain or inform when it is implied or in a more complex text.
- Identifies and describes complex elements of literary text (i.e., character[s], setting, and events).
- Recognizes how literary devices are used purposefully in complex literary text (e.g., onomatopoeia, personification, simile, metaphor).
- Summarizes a complex literary text using key details.
- Identifies the main idea of an informational text by using key details.
- Locates information using detailed text features (e.g., illustrations, lists, tables of contents, maps, charts, graphs).
- Identifies a wide variety of literary and informational texts (e.g., stories, poems, dramas, schedules, calendars, lunch menus, signs, reference texts).
- Identifies similar topics in a complex literary text (e.g., themes, events, character traits).

- Recognizes similar topics in a simple literary text (i.e., events).
- Answers simple literal questions about the text.
- Identifies organizational patterns in simple informational text (e.g., twostep sequence).
- Recognizes explicit evidence related to a claim.
- Edits basic writing for conventions of standard English (e.g., initial capitalization, punctuation limited to period).
- Identifies explicit evidence related to an idea found in the literary text.
- Recognizes precise word choice for a mode.

- Identifies similar topics in a literary text (e.g., themes, events, character traits).
- Answers literal questions using explicit evidence from the text.
- Identifies organizational patterns in informational text (e.g., three-step sequence; first, next, last).
- Supports a claim or thesis using evidence.
- Edits writing for conventions of standard English (e.g., initial and proper noun capitalization, punctuation limited to period and question mark).
- Identifies evidence from the text that supports an idea found in the literary or informational text.
- Identifies precise word choice for each mode.

- Answers complex literal questions using explicit evidence from the text.
- Identifies organizational patterns in complex informational text (e.g., multistep sequence).
- Supports a claim or thesis using relevant evidence effectively.
- Edits complex writing for conventions of standard English (e.g., initial and proper noun capitalization, punctuation limited to period and question mark).
- Identifies relevant evidence from the text that supports a complex idea found in the literary or informational text.
- Applies precise word choice for a variety of modes.